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# PARK LITES

## SOUTH CAROLINA STATE PARKS

# NEWSLETTER

Volume XXIII ■ Number 1 ■ Summer 1993





# HAVE A HAPPY (AND SAFE) SUMMER!



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DANA L. SAWYER, Editor

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J. W. LAWRENCE

## DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

WILLIAM R. JENNINGS



**ABOUT THE COVER PHOTO:** I. V. Butler (left), President of Fort Moultrie Chapter #36, NACCCA, admires the new CCC sign erected at Givhans Ferry State Park. Extending congratulations to Mr. Butler is park superintendent Glenn Farr. CCC members met at Givhans Ferry on April 20 to put signs on the park's CCC structures. Text of the plaque may be found on page 3 of this issue. Over 300 of the buildings constructed by the CCC remain on South Carolina state parks today. To help visitors identify the buildings and to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Civilian Conservation Corps, a sign with the original CCC logo is being attached to them. In South Carolina, seventeen of the present state parks were initiated by the CCC, including Aiken, Barnwell, Cheraw, Chester, Colleton, Edisto Beach, Givhans Ferry, Lake Greenwood, Hunting Island, Kings Mountain, Lee, Myrtle Beach, Oconee, Paris Mountain, Poinsett, Sesquicentennial and Table Rock.

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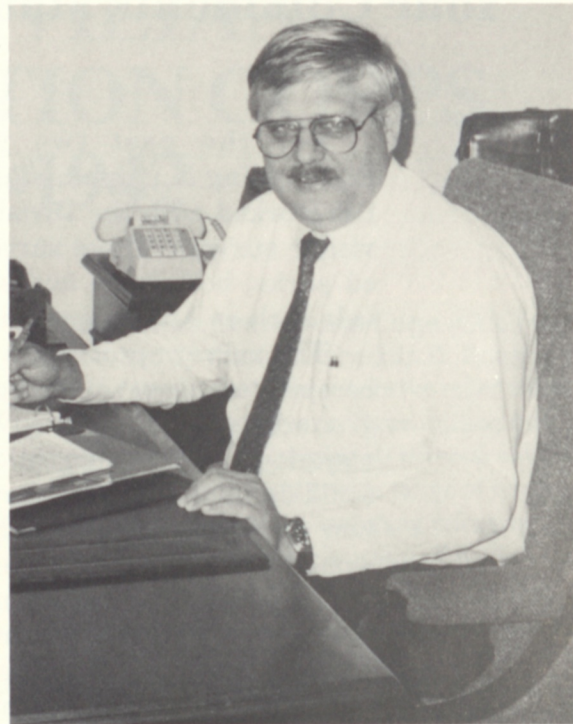


As a part of the goal-setting process, I had to review the goals for fiscal year 1992/93 and provide a status report to Mr. Lawrence and Mr. Jennings. I was very pleased with the progress of the park system. A great many projects, both large and small, were completed. I can see substantial improvements at every park that I visit.

We have established a very ambitious program for improving every aspect of the park operation for the next fiscal year. I was very impressed with the work done at both the park level and by the central office sections on the goals for fiscal year 1993-94. From a review of this work and from conversations with several park superintendents, I believe that park division personnel have a good understanding of the direction and priorities of the park division. Working to achieve these goals will result in a substantial improvement in the park system.

I want to thank the people that have been involved in the Table Rock and Paris Mountain recovery effort for both their work and their enthusiasm. In addition, I appreciate the efforts of the people that stayed at their home park and dealt with an increased work load because of being short on staff. The storm came just as we were preparing for the busy spring season, and it placed a heavy burden upon all of us. We have invested over 10,000 man-hours thus far, and the total cost is expected to be about \$200,000. The parks are looking good. We have more work to do and some of the remaining work will be done next winter.

We have all heard the old saying: "What does not kill me makes me stronger." This must truly be the case. We have had our share of problems over the last few years, but I believe that each problem has made us a stronger and better park system.



*Charles W. Harrison*

As we work through this summer, I ask that you place a lot of attention on the park visitors. We want each individual to enjoy his/her visit. Do not view them as a mass of visitors, but rather as individual people. The quality of their visits are directly dependent upon the contacts they have with you and the services that you provide.

I am looking forward to the next fiscal year. You have done a great deal of work in assessing the needs of your park and planning the work to be done. Fiscal year 1993/94 will be a great year for the South Carolina state park system if we all put forth the effort to achieve our goals and approach each day with enthusiasm.

Have a safe summer!

CHARLES W. HARRISON  
Director, Division of State Parks



## FROM THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

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### **Your Comments Matter. . .They Really Do!**

For the past two years, PRT's Division of Engineering & Planning/Research and Statistics Section has worked with the Division of State Parks on various visitor surveys. These surveys were conducted at selected parks, both large and small, in cabins, and at festivals such as Atalaya and Pioneer Days.

The surveys provided a forum for the park visitor to be able to suggest improvements to park facilities and grounds, as well as to give us positive feedback. The majority of these suggestions were practical things we could do to make parks more visitor-friendly. Now, here's how you, the heartbeat of the parks system, can help. We would like your suggestions on how we can improve what we do. Your input may reveal directions never thought of before. For example, in 1986, the Walt Disney Company planned a contest which asked employees for suggestions for new company opportunities. One employee suggested the idea of establishing a chain of retail outlets for Disney products. This suggestion sounded good to management, and now there are more than one hundred Walt Disney stores in the United States, Europe, and Japan.

I'm looking for your ideas, and I pledge to you that each one will be looked at, discussed, and responded to. Some suggestions may not be possible due to budget conditions or agency approval. I anticipate some suggestions being handled by your park superintendent or supervisor while others may require approval from the Columbia office.

More instructions will be coming on how you can participate in this program. I am excited about the future and want you to play a part in planning to be the best we can be.

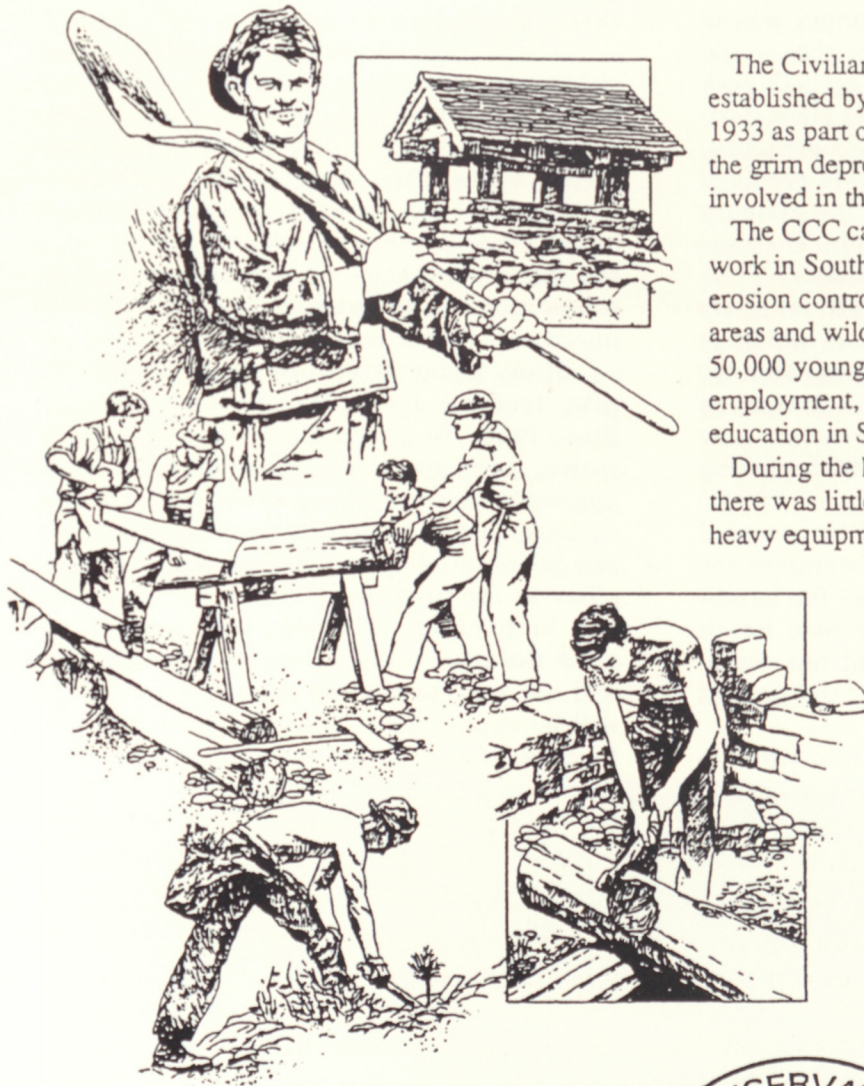
The program has been entitled "Your Comments Matter," and indeed they do. Look around, put on your thinking cap, and get your suggestions ready.

VAN A. STICKLES

Assistant Director, Division of State Parks



# THE CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS 1933-1942



The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) was established by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1933 as part of the comprehensive relief effort during the grim depression years. Three million men were involved in the CCC during its ten-year existence.

The CCC carried out a wide range of conservation work in South Carolina including reforestation, erosion control, the development of public recreation areas and wildlife habitat improvement. Nearly 50,000 young men and war veterans were provided employment, learned job skills, and furthered their education in South Carolina CCC Camps.

During the hard times of The Great Depression, there was little money for building materials and heavy equipment. Ingenuity, hard work and simple hand tools were the order of the day. Small sawmills and stone quarries supplied the camps with natural building materials located near at hand. The foundation of the South Carolina State Park System was laid by the CCC with the development of its first seventeen parks. Americans owe a great debt of gratitude to the young men of the Civilian Conservation Corps, who built many of the beautiful structures which are enjoyed at our state and national parks.

The CCC emblem is used today to identify structures on state parks built by the men of the Civilian Conservation Corps.





# FROM THE CHIEF OF OPERATIONS

## Reservations Procedures to Change

On November 17-18, 1992, a meeting was held at Santee State Park to review our reservation procedures for facilities at South Carolina state parks. Twenty-two employees from throughout the state and the central office attended this meeting. The objective for this group of experienced personnel was to propose a reservations procedure that would be simple to understand and use by both park visitors and employees, and would allow flexibility for park managers in their operations. The proposed changes that were a result of this meeting were approved at the January meeting of the PRT Commission. The new reservation procedures are as follows:

"Reservations for cabins, shelters, group camps, and community/recreation buildings may be accepted for the following calendar year beginning the first monday in January of a current year. (Example: Reservations may be accepted for calendar year 1995 beginning the first Monday in January of 1994.) Reservations for campsites will be accepted beginning the first Monday in January for that current year only." (Except for handicapped- accessible campsites, Edisto Beach State Park is the only park that has campsites available for reservations at the present time.)

This new procedure will go into effect in January 1994, at which time reservations will be accepted for calendar year 1995. Reservations will be accepted by telephone only beginning the first Monday in January through the following Friday. All park offices are to be staffed on Monday from 8 A.M. to 5 P.M., to include the lunch hour. After Friday, reservations may be accepted by telephone, mail, or in person. Reservations for calendar year 1994 will be handled under our current procedures.

Except for Barnwell, Givhans Ferry, and Poinsett state parks, the requirements for length of stay and days of weekly rentals for cabins and campsites will remain the same unless approval is obtained from the central office. Beginning in 1994, these parks will accept reservations for any time period during the year, not to exceed fourteen days during

one visit. When requested by the park superintendent and approval given, weekly rentals may begin and end other days for some of the lodging units on his/her park. Some parks will have the flexibility to offer weekly rentals in some of their cabins during time periods other than April 1 -October 1.

It was recommended and approved that a change be made in our policy for accepting lodging reservations for one or two week nights (Monday through Thursday) during certain times of the year. Current policy stated that these type reservations could only be taken from November 1 - March 31 and only ten days in advance. The change will allow reservations to be accepted up to thirty days in advance from August 15 - March 31.

Many comments were made about our rate structure during the meeting at Santee State Park. To promote good customer relations, one that was recommended and approved involves rate increases. Since the customer could be making reservations up to two years in advance, the rate which was in effect at the time the reservation was made will be honored. If a price increase occurs after the reservation is made, the customer will not have to pay the increased rate. This will be applicable at all state parks. It is felt that this change in our reservation procedure will be more "user friendly" for our park visitor and will allow park superintendents more flexibility in their operations. During the next few months we must make the public aware of these changes. Each employee will need to know and understand the new procedure in order that he/she can inform park visitors. If I can help in this process, please feel free to contact me.

During the past two years many employees have been involved with operational changes in South Carolina state parks. These changes have and will continue to have a positive effect upon employees and visitors at our parks. My sincere appreciation goes out to each of you for your hard work and interest in our state park system.

C. F. PARKMAN  
Chief of Operations



## The Blizzard of '93

Watching the weather forecast on March 9, 1993, I could not believe the prediction. The cold weather, snow, and winds predicted could result in the worst storm in several years to hit the eastern United States. My family and I were planning a mini-ski vacation to West Virginia for the weekend. Thinking of the many times that the forecast had been off in the previous couple of months, we decided to continue with our plans. Little did we know that the "Storm of the Century" would occur! Forty-four inches of snow, high winds that contributed to minus-40 degree wind chill factors, and snow drifts which covered vehicles made us very glad to return home after an all-night drive on some very treacherous roads.

We watched the weather channel a lot that weekend. The effects of the storm along the coastline were mentioned many times. When I returned to work, I asked about damage at our coastal parks. The reply was minimal, but Table Rock, Caesars Head, Jones Gap, and Paris Mountain sustained heavy

damage. Other parks also had minor damage. This surprised me very much since the news about the storm had not mentioned areas other than the coast. Winds that hit these areas made the landscape look like Hurricane Hugo had visited South Carolina again! Immediately, employees from across the park system responded to the call and began assisting with the clean-up. Except for areas of Table Rock State Park, all of the parks are back open for public use. To each employee, I want to say "thank you" for your contributions to getting this clean-up and repair work completed. Even though some of you may not have gone to any of these parks, someone had to perform additional duties to cover for those who did. As always, you have shown that you can be counted upon in times of crisis. My hat is off to each of you!

C. F. PARKMAN  
Chief of Operations



*Storm damage in the cabin area at Table Rock State Park.*



## REVENUE RESOURCES SECTION

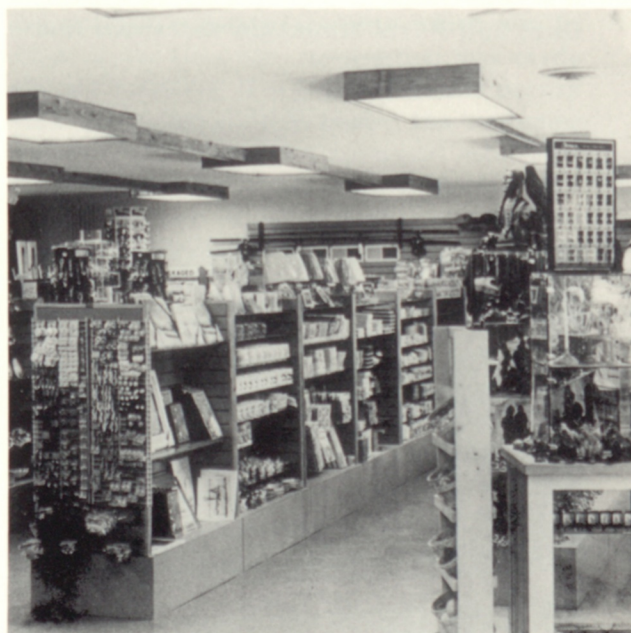
The Division of State Parks generates approximately 65% of its annual operating budget through revenue production. The mission of our state park system is to provide natural resource-based recreational opportunities. In the course of providing these opportunities, we are able to take in revenue from cabin rentals, camping, retail sales, and other support facilities that can be used to help fund the state parks' educational programs, maintenance projects, staff salaries, employee training, and resource management projects. Without a 65% to 35% ratio of generated revenue to budget appropriations, the division would lose many of our opportunities that now exist in providing excellent services and facilities to our state park visitors.

A large percentage (30%) of our revenue production comes through retail sales. Sales exceed \$3.4 million annually, which outdistance both cabin rentals (\$1.8 million) and camping (\$2.9 million.) Within the last year, the division has begun upgrading the physical aspects of our retail spaces. By improving lighting, installing new displays using slatwall, adding new flooring, and upgrading our merchandise, we have made a significant impact upon the appearance of our park stores. These "up-to-date" appearances are also reflected in increased store traffic and sales volume. The park stores at Hunting Island, Edisto Beach, and Santee have been upgraded using a combination of park staff, Supply Center crews, and the Revenue Resources Section staff. Within the coming months, we will continue this program to improve other retail areas.

MIKE DAVIDSON  
Manager, Revenue Resources



*Interior of the store at Hunting Island State Park, showing the eye-appealing displays of merchandise.*





## Licensing Certification and Its Mandated Continuing Education

In our rapidly-escalating information age, we are experiencing a trend toward increased licensing or certification and mandated continuing education (MCE) for relicensing or recertification. Not only is this noticeable in the technical professions of medicine and engineering, but also in almost all professions. It is very evident even in our profession, the diverse field of park management.

Only a few short years ago, just one or two licenses or certifications were required for us to open our park gates. Today it is quite different. Certifications are mandatory in practically every aspect of park operations.

From the Environmental Certification Board, operators are able to obtain a Water, Waste Water or Pool Operator certification, all of which are mandatory at relevant parks. Pesticide applicators' licenses have been mandatory for some time and are available through Clemson University. Operators of certain park vehicles are now mandated to obtain commercial driver licenses through the Department of Highways and Public Transportation. Law enforcement certification at the Criminal Justice Academy for commissioned ranger constables is mandated by state law. There are a variety of technical maintenance trade certifications in specific areas throughout the state. Most of these certifications are available through the South Carolina Municipal Association. Lifeguard certifications as well as First Aid, CPR, and Infectious Disease certifications are all mandatory and available through the American Red Cross. This is not a complete list of licenses or certifications necessary to operate our parks, but it does provide an overview of some of the more common mandatory certifications in our profession.

This issue is no longer just a matter of initial certification. Almost all of these licenses and certifications have mandatory continuing education requirements, and rightly so. Another interesting observation is that most of them now require end-of-course examinations or assessments before credit is awarded to the participant for either the initial certification or the recertification.

Even though there is an implied benefit from mandating continuing education (MCE), numerous scientific studies have been conducted on mandated continuing education (MCE) to examine its impact on knowledge proficiency and have affirmed its effectiveness. As technology drives our information age we will continue to see this increasing trend of professionals having to learn not only more information but also new skills as well in order to adapt to the rapidly-changing conditions. This means even more licensing, certification and continuing education in the future.

MICHAEL N. HUNT  
Training Coordinator



*Hunting Island Superintendent Ray Stevens discusses "Human Relations and Image" during the Ranger Segment, Phase B training session held February 3, 1993 at Sesqui's Training Center.*



## FROM THE CHIEF OF MAINTENANCE

When the Division's Central Maintenance section assumed the operation of the Service Center, it became quickly apparent that facilities at the center were not adequate to support all the section's activities that operated from this location.

As I am sure most are aware, the maintenance section is responsible for the production of almost all signs used in the park system. This work had all been accomplished in a small 12' x 16' add-on to the side of an existing building. While this facility has always been inadequate for its purpose, the situation became more pronounced as the maintenance section responded to the need to improve the quantity, quality, and variety of its sign production.

The sign-making operation now uses several new pieces of equipment, a variety of new materials and techniques, and takes place in a newly-completed 25' x 30' shop area. This new shop, more than triple the area of the old sign shop, provides an adequate, comfortable work area and should add greatly to the section's sign-making capabilities.

Another new addition now underway at the Service Center is the construction of a 30' x 144' equipment storage shed. The section has assigned to it a large variety of heavy equipment, tools, and smaller pieces of equipment. Additionally, storage is often required for materials slated for use in upcoming projects. Many of these items previously had to be stored out in the open, where they were subject to damage from the elements, or stacked in fairly inaccessible locations. The new storage shed should add greatly in protecting the division's investments in these items and helping the maintenance section use them more efficiently.

JAMES B. WORK  
Chief of Maintenance



*The old sign shop, which has been torn down.*



*The new 25' x 30' sign shop at the Service Center.*

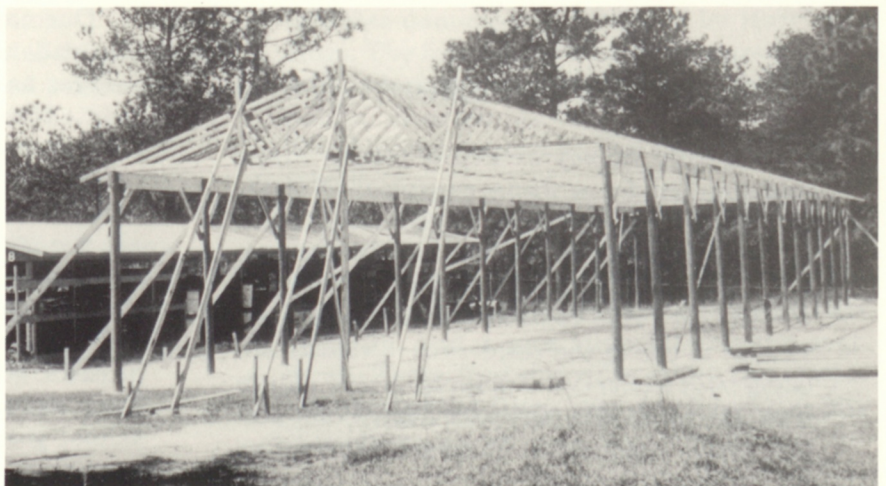


*Trades Craftsman Darryl Moore routing a park sign in the new sign shop.*



*Master Craftsman Junior Campbell working on an exhibit display case for the new Visitor Center at Santee.*

*The new 30' x 144' equipment storage shed under construction at the Service Center.*





# DISTRICT NEWS



## DISTRICT I

It looks like 1993 is going to be a great year for District I. Already, many projects have been completed through our maintenance programs. Every park in the district is offering more interpretive and educational programs. The quantity and quality of the programs planned by even the smaller park staffs are very impressive.

Some of the big news for 1993 will be the long overdue reconstruction of Huntington Beach State Park, the construction of a new office at Myrtle Beach, and the construction of Phase I facilities at Sergeant Jasper State Park in Jasper County.

Thanks to all the superintendents and their staffs for their work in making the first half of 1993 a big success. Special thanks for each park's eagerness to send help to Table Rock and Paris Mountain after the "Storm of the Century."

LARRY W. DUNCAN  
District I Superintendent

## CHARLES TOWNE LANDING

The new turkey aviary is taking shape and headed for a June completion date. Currently, two young otters are being hand raised to add to the habitat in early summer. A new bison calf was born this spring.

The park staff continues other major renovations to one of the residences. Cabinets are being built at Service & Supply. A new nature trail, the result of a two-year Eagle Scout project, nears completion. Manager Janson Cox

has met with the Commission for the Blind about working with us on developing a cassette tape for touring the Animal Forest. A braille notebook for tours will also be developed.

## COLLETON

If you like "before" and "after" pictures, wait until you see the ones I have for the old superintendent's residence at Colleton. The residence went from sagebrush grey wood siding to beige vinyl siding with white trim. The new look has really improved the appearance of the park entrance.

Another big improvement was the removal of the c. 1955 mobile home which went to the lowest (unluckiest) bidder. New partitions in the campground restroom have greatly improved its appearance.

## EDISTO BEACH

Ah...the surf washing upon the beach to the delight of the beachcomber, the warm breeze blowing through your hair, and a great blue heron looking for their supper in the marsh. These are but a few of the attractions that await you here at Edisto.

The crowds have already begun to converge on Edisto to soak up the beach experience. The warm weather has come and is certainly welcomed after the "Blizzard of '93!"

Our newly-expanded gift shop was a good investment for the park's division. Yearly patrons as well as new visitors have complimented us week after week about the new look.

This year is our first attempt at presenting Arts and Crafts demonstrations throughout the spring. These are expected to do well and to become very popular.

My thanks to our maintenance staff for their tireless efforts on finishing winter work projects. My thanks also to the ranger staff for their exemplary efforts for preparations on school group programming. Head count by spring's end should reach 600 or more.



Edisto is truly a great place to visit and I can only hope that each of you could be so lucky to work at such a park. If you are thinking of a great get-away, THINK EDISTO!

BRIAN NORRIS  
Ranger III

### GIVHANS FERRY

Givhans has entered the computer age! Superintendent Glenn Farr likes the new unit so much that he went out and bought a personal unit for his wife, Elaine. Before you know it, there will be some real computer experts on the Edisto River!

The park's revenues are up, with camping and cabin use on a steady increase. One of the biggest improvements has been the removal of all of those Hugo stumps. Those state park stump grinders have really paid for themselves!

### HAMPTON PLANTATION

Bob Mitchell and Joe Craven are to be commended for the great job they're doing in promoting use and increasing revenue on their park. Hampton's revenue for FY 92/93 could end up well over 60% greater than for the previous fiscal year. Both men are committed to offering quality interpretive and educational programs which have been responsible for increased sales in the park's gift shop.

Hampton has made good use of volunteer workers this year. I have been most impressed with the quality of these individuals who provide excellent information and service to the visitors to Hampton.

Numerous work projects have been completed during the early part of 1993. One now in progress is the building of a foot bridge over an old rice field trunk. This bridge will enable visitors to walk over the entire dike and offer great birding and wildlife.

### HUNTING ISLAND

We would like to congratulate Joe Anderson for his promotion to superintendent at Landsford Canal State Park. We wish Joe and his wife Leslie the very best in their new home.

We would like to welcome Mike Walker back to Hunting Island. Mike worked as the seasonal naturalist in 1990 and now takes over as the park naturalist in a full-time capacity. As always, I can never thank the park staff enough for their hard work and dedication. We have made some tremendous strides in improving our facilities and we have improved in our professionalism as we have carried out our duties in our chosen careers. I sincerely thank you for all you do.

This year while working the Wildlife Expo at Charleston, my family and I stayed at Givhans Ferry in cabin #4. This was the first time that we had stayed at Givhans since the night of September 21, 1989 (remember HUGO?) On that night the old cabin #3 fell apart on us. We all agreed that we had a much better time this year. Thanks, Glenn!

I invite each and every one of you to come and visit Hunting Island.

RAY T. STEVENS  
Superintendent

### HUNTINGTON BEACH

Superintendent Keith Windham is very happy to see construction begin on the major facilities damaged or destroyed by Hurricane Hugo. The first repair was to the marsh boardwalk, which is now completed and open to the public. Another walkway leading from the North campground to the beach has been rebuilt.

The news gets even better as the bids have been awarded for the construction of the new office/trading post complex, additional parking, a new picnic area concession/restroom building, and a new superintendent's residence. These facilities will replace the temporary units that have been in place since the Hurricane.



## DISTRICT NEWS ( Continued)

Many thanks to Susan Windham for volunteering her expertise and many hours of hard work to develop and offer special programs for park visitors. Thanks also to part-time naturalists Steve Roff and Lee Wilson for their work on programs and a new nature trail.

I would also like to welcome Katherine Best as our new Ranger I at Huntington Beach. Katherine is a graduate of Appalachian State University and worked as an assistant ranger during the summer of 1992.

### LAKE WARREN

Revenues from community building and picnic shelter rentals increase as the word gets out about this Hampton County state park. Plans are already underway for a baseball diamond, two soccer fields, a second fishing pier, and two observation decks to be built in the near future.

The park staff, Columbia office program staff, and myself are working with local volunteers to plan the first annual Lake Warren Outdoor Festival this fall. Events will include canoe instructions, canoe races, a fishing tournament, entertainment, and much more. Funds raised will go to building a 25-site campground on the park.

Welcome to new Ranger I Mark Cook, and congratulations to Mark and his wife on the birth of their son, Dakota.

### MYRTLE BEACH

The March 13th storm did extensive damage to the beach and dunes and destroyed over 300 trees on the park. Thank goodness for the division's stump grinder, which received some heavy-duty use!

The cabins at Myrtle Beach have received quite an upgrade with new mini-blinds, bedspreads, floor coverings, and color TV's with cable.

Lots of hours of work have gone into rearranging both the pier and trading post gift shops. The warmer weather has finally brought catches of whiting and bluefish at the pier.

Welcome to new Ranger I Alva A. (Zack) Weaver and new park technician Paul Aliff.

### OLD DORCHESTER

The park crew continues to work with Historic Site Coordinator Dan Bell in conducting numerous programs interpreting the colonial fort, church and village at Dorchester. A visitor's guide is still in the works and will be sold at the park office.

Charles Cumbee and Danny Dewees have been busy constructing three retaining walls between Fort Dorchester and the Ashley River. The area has a history of erosion and the walls were needed to preserve and protect the fort.

### RIVERS BRIDGE

The swimming pool looks great after the park crew gave it an acid (muriatic) bath this spring. Superintendent Jerry Price is hoping to find adequate lifeguards so that he can re-implement a five day/week operation this summer.

The Battle of Rivers Bridge encampment in February was successful despite some rainy weather. Jerry lined up a young female banjo picker named "Bad Mary" for the event. "Bad Mary" and her guitarist brother played and sang songs of the Civil War era.

The park crew has completed the renovation of the community building restroom. Kurt Becht came down to advise how we could make the restrooms more handicapped accessible. The results were a much improved appearance and increased accessibility.



*Black bear in the Animal Forest at Charles Towne Landing.*



*Tom Perry, CTL Trades Craftsman, inspects sheetrock work in park residence.*

*Newly-paved campground road at Hunting Island.*



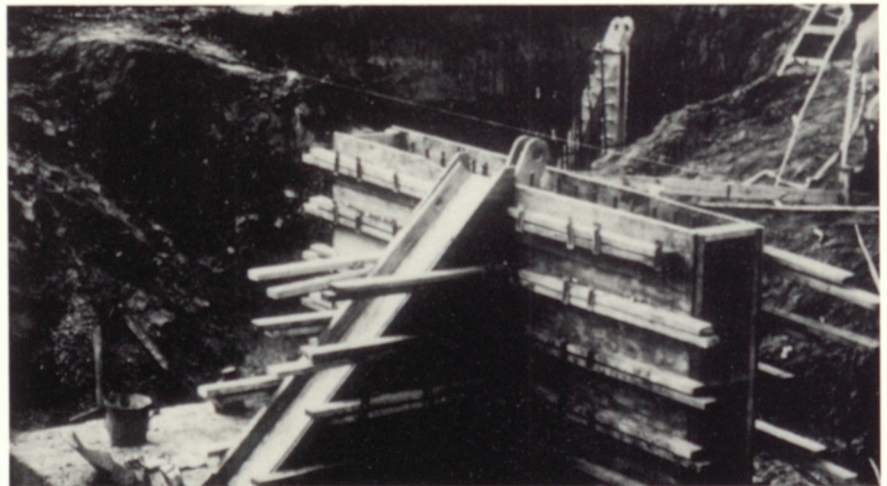


## DISTRICT NEWS ( Continued)



*Fabric being installed on new turkey aviary at Charles Towne Landing.*

*Underground structural support being formed for turkey aviary at Charles Towne Landing.*



*New trash can racks dress up Animal Forest at Charles Towne Landing.*



*Beach erosion at Edisto Beach.*



*Interior of Edisto Beach gift shop.*

*New boardwalk to Edisto Beach park office and gift shop.*





## DISTRICT NEWS ( Continued)



*Hunting Beach  
Superintendent Keith  
Windham talks to park visi-  
tors on newly-completed  
marsh boardwalk.*

*Hunting Island trading post  
(park store) interior during  
renovation.*



*The finishing touches being  
put on the two new bulletin  
boards at the entrance to the  
marsh boardwalk at  
Huntington Beach.*

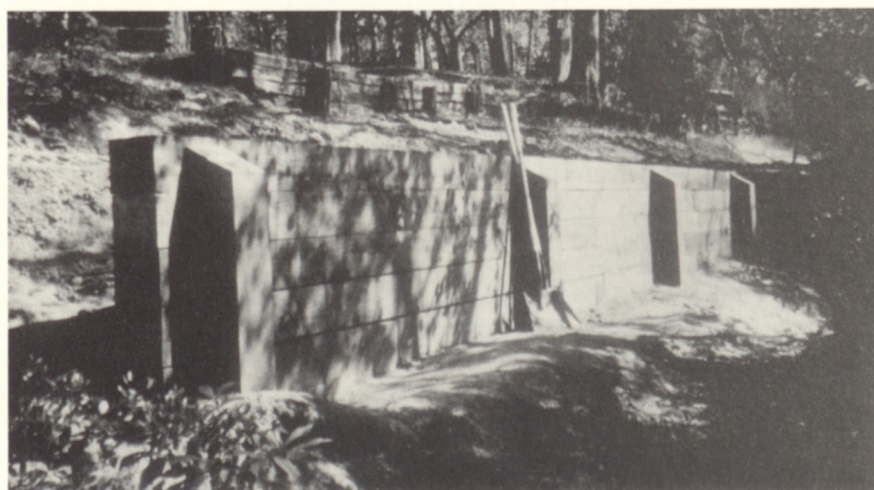


*Siding being removed from  
park residence at Old  
Dorchester.*



*Vinyl siding installed on same  
residence at Old Dorchester.*

*Completed retaining wall at  
Old Dorchester.*





# DISTRICT NEWS



## DISTRICT II

With spring here and summer fast approaching, activities in the parks are really beginning to move. Without exception, each park staff is beginning to put together programs and presenting them both on and off the park. For so many years most parks did not offer many programs and a lot of locals never visited or had not visited our parks in many years. But things are beginning to change with our approach to programming. This is a powerful tool that can be used not only to educate the public but also to rejuvenate our attendance.

I would like to thank all the personnel in District I who gave of their time away from their busy schedules to go to Paris Mountain and Table Rock to help with the cleanup after the storm. You volunteered without hesitation and it goes to show what a great bunch of people we have!

MARSHALL WEST  
District II Superintendent

## AIKEN

Once again the Telephone Pioneers have donated their time to a project at the park. This past spring they came out and constructed boardwalks over low, wet areas on the nature trails. Up until now, most of these trails were impassable during wet times, but now you can walk them anytime and keep your feet dry.

## BARNWELL

Greetings from Barnwell! We are preparing for what we feel is going to be our busiest season yet. The community building is booked every weekend and the cabins aren't far behind.

The thing that is the most exciting is the interest the public is beginning to express here at Barnwell. We have had numerous requests for programs, several conservation projects have been performed by Boy Scouts, and we were adopted.

The Pelion High School Consumer and Home Economics Department held fund raisers for an Earth Day project. Through walks, T-shirt sales, and bake sales, the students raised \$400. This money was then donated to Barnwell State Park to be used in rebuilding boardwalks on our nature trail. This, along with the identification markers and brochures that were done as an Eagle Scout project by Eddie Moore of Barnwell, will go a long way to upgrade our nature trail. Hopefully the adoption of parks by schools, civic groups, or businesses will become a trend.

In closing, we at Barnwell hope that your summer is fun, safe, and profitable.

RICK ROBERTSON  
Ranger II

## CHERAW

After seven months of golf course operations, Cheraw is proving to be a park to be reckoned with. Revenue and attendance have soared. Motels in the Florence area have been packaging our course and during March and April more than 1,300 rounds of golf were booked. Larry and his staff have been busy remodeling the cabins with new pictures, appliances, TV's, carpet and many other things to make the visitors' stays more enjoyable. A new 1000' boardwalk from the new bridge over the spillway around the lake towards the swimming area is out for bids and construction should be underway shortly.



## **GOODALE**

Carolina Power & Light Company's Adopt-A-Park volunteers came out and built a bridge in a low area between the picnic shelter and the swimming area. I am sure that Jim Graham and his staff appreciate this new addition and are anxiously awaiting the start-up of other projects.

## **LEE**

Mike Mathis would like to welcome his new ranger to the park family. Those of us who have been around for a few years may remember George Hargrove. George began his career in the early 1970's at Huntington Beach and was eventually promoted to superintendent at Woods Bay. Welcome back to George and his wife Nancy.

## **LITTLE PEE DEE**

By the time this is published, Brian will be enrolled in seminary and following a call that he has had for some time. We wish Brian and his family well and want him to know that he will be missed.

## **LYNCHES RIVER**

Harold Pate and his fine staff have been doing their usual good job. A number of new DHEC and pool regulations have kept Harold and Shannon Hart busy posting new regulations and attending school.

## **OLD SANTEE CANAL**

Here are some of the things that have happened since the last issue of "Park Lites."

About 1500 school children have come out to participate in park-led activities.

A series of teachers' workshops has been conducted at the park for teachers from Berkeley County schools.

More than 1800 people visited the park during February to view the first photo exhibit in the Interpretive Center called "An African Experience," which featured thirty-four color

photographs of people, places, and animals of Africa.

The fifth annual "Pops in the Park" concert featuring the Charleston Symphony Orchestra was held May 22nd.

The park was host to a visit by the mayor and town council of New Haven, Indiana. They had heard wonderful things about the Interpretive Center and wanted to get some ideas for the canal museum that they are planning to build. In addition, staff members from the Edgefield Museum and Drayton Hall have also visited the park to look over the Interpretive Center.

More than 1,000 elementary school students visited the park on May 29 to hear a talk by ETV's Rudy Mancke. This program was sponsored by the "Berkeley County Kids Who Care" program, which features classes that have worked on environmental topics.

The Stony Landing House has been reserved for numerous weddings, company picnics, and family reunions. Staff members from the Department of Water Resources have treated the weed problem in Biggin Creek. We hope that it will be cleared up by this summer so that it will be easier to canoe through this area.

Two osprey nests have been rebuilt on the park after the "Blizzard of '93" knocked all nests down at the park.

MARY S. BELL  
Curator

## **POINSETT**

A hearty thanks goes to Jim Work and Kurt Becht for their help in making the repairs to the gate valve on our dam. We worked on the beach while the lake level was lowered, so it will look good this summer. We would also like to thank Irvin Pitts for his help with our fish restocking and management program. We feed the fish every day at 6:30 p.m., and we hope to see lots of fishermen around our lake during the coming year.

We said goodbye in March to our naturalist, Beth Alfieri, and are looking forward to a new person to lead our programs and work with our volunteers.



## DISTRICT NEWS ( Continued)

Speaking of volunteers, we have been privileged to have prisoners from the Wateree correctional facility work at Poinsett during the month of April. They have put in more than one thousand man-hours of work, and the park looks great because of their help. We had Carolina Power & Light employees volunteering on May 15. This was a big day for Poinsett, with many projects completed using donated materials. This day also marked the completion of all of our concurrent projects for FY 92/93.

We have been working on park beautification by setting out many plants from the Kings Mountain nursery, and 100 mountain laurel plants from the Resource Management section. Grass is starting to grow at Poinsett, but this year we need not fear, for we have a new John Deere. Thank you, Mr. Work!

We at Poinsett hope that everyone has a fun and safe summer.

MARY CROCKETT  
Superintendent

### REDCLIFFE PLANTATION

Gene Cobb and his staff have found a new way for them to create new business. Gene has talked with the Visitors' Center in Augusta about including Redcliffe on the "places to see locally" for tour buses. In the very early stages of this effort, it looks as though it may increase visitation and revenue considerably.

(The following is a report from Ranger Joby Pitts. Ed.)

Springtime is here, the grass has really taken off, and so have our weddings. We have two or three weddings booked every weekend through August. The house tours have really increased this year compared to last year. We are continuing to get bus tours from out-of-state visitors through publicity from the Augusta Visitors' Center. Local school groups have also helped to increase our tours this year.

We had our Annual Bluegrass Festival in March. I would like to say a special thanks to Dan Turpin for all the help he has given to Redcliffe, and we are looking forward to working with him again in the near future.

The SOAR groups from North August performed skits of the Hammond family in March, and they were very successful. We are looking forward to working with them again, since interest in their program continues to grow each year.

I would also like to thank the Resource Management section for their help in getting our bluebird boxes. Every one is being used, and we also have two new wood ducks nesting in the boxes on our pond.

I hope that everyone is getting along all right at Table Rock after the storm damage, and it won't be long before the operation and the beauty of that park will be back to normal.

If any of you get over in this area, stop by Redcliffe for a visit. We'll be glad to see you!

JOBY PITTS  
Ranger I

### SANTEE

The rondette cabins have been renovated to meet ADA requirements and they look great. The new park Visitors' Center is getting a lot of traffic. Visitors come by to see the 250-gallon aquarium, weather station and other exhibits. In closing, Santee would like to welcome Ranger III Mark Davis and his wife Joyce to the Santee family.

PHIL GAINES  
Superintendent

### WOODS BAY

Now that Dennis Hart is back to full staff, his programs calendar is almost booked to capacity. Al James is the new Interpreter and we welcome Al and his family.



*Santee Interpreter David Green, Resource Management Biologist Irvin Pitts, Graphic Artist Gene Speer and Service Center Trades Craftsman Darryl Moore maneuver an exhibit case into place in the new Visitors' Center at Santee.*



*Santee Supplementary Maintenance Laborer Detrick Sweat stains the frame of a newly-installed exhibit panel in the Visitors' Center.*

*Chief Biologist Stan Hutto checks exhibit materials prior to installation in the Santee Visitors' Center.*



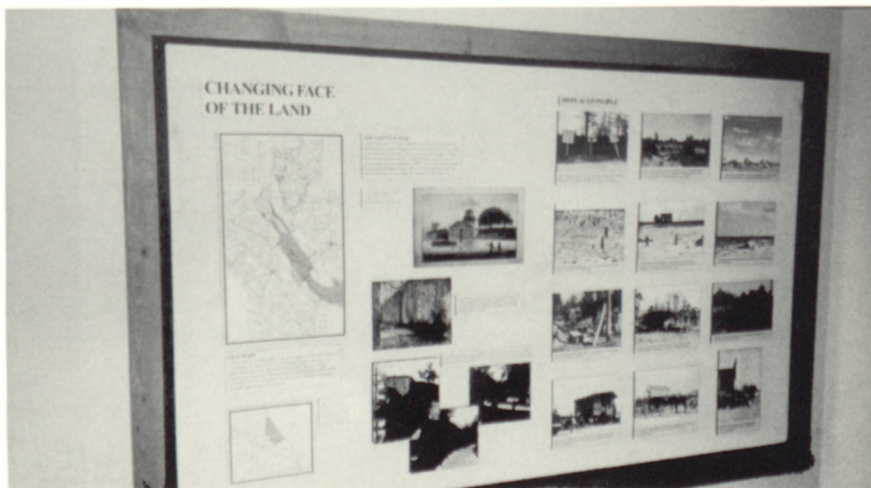


## DISTRICT NEWS ( Continued)



*CCC workers and their spouses gathered at Aiken State Park this spring to place markers on buildings built by the CCC. The shelter in the background is one of the 300 remaining CCC structures on South Carolina state parks.*

*Resource Management Biologist Irvin Pitts and Graphic Artist Gene Speer prepare to install an exhibit panel in the Visitors' Center at Santee.*



*One of the new exhibit panels in the Visitors' Center at Santee.*





## DISTRICT III

Since the last printing of "Park Lites," most of the district's efforts have been directed toward helping Table Rock State Park recover from the winter blizzard in March. The normal routine duties on many of the parks suffered some due to personnel being sent to Table Rock and Paris Mountain state parks to assist cleaning up the damage brought on by the storm. I feel that anyone that has witnessed the results will not complain. The effort put forth by everyone from the coast to the mountains makes me proud to be associated with such dedicated, talented people.

I visited Table Rock and Paris Mountain the day after the storm, and would have bet that the cleanup would have taken several months longer than it has. At this writing, everything is open except for one picnic shelter and the main campground at Table Rock, with plans for their reopening on Memorial Day weekend.

Renovations have resumed on the Caesars Head store building, with the completion date moved up due to the Table Rock storm damage repairs.

Lake Tom Moore Craig and the campground at Croft have reopened. The horse trails are ready, so perhaps things will start falling back into place before long.

The Oconee staff, along with the Resource Management staff and its talented exhibit artist, Gene Speer, just completed the trout exhibit at Oconee. This and the grounds work along the cabin walkways are well worth a trip to Oconee State Park just to view them.

We are looking forward to a great summer season, just as I'm sure everyone is, and we would like for you to come by for a visit.

HORACE W. CRAIG  
District III Superintendent

## DEVILS FORK

The park staff is anxiously awaiting the arrival of summer '93. Much has been accomplished during the past year. Presently we have very few villas available for the summer. Visitation and revenue continue to increase as more and more people find out about Devils Fork and Lake Jocassee. We feel that our long-term goals are now within sight and that means they are certainly within our grasp.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Mr. Bill Marrell and Miss Kristi Baker to our staff. The enthusiasm Bill brings is remarkable. Since his arrival, we have held numerous successful programs and have scheduled many more. The addition of Bill to our staff will certainly help us reach new goals. Kristi has been a part of our staff since July 1991 and at one time or another has worked in all phases of our operation. She has been quite busy setting up computer programs and taking reservations. I look forward to working with both of them hopefully for a long time.

Over the last few months Devils Fork has received a lot of assistance from so many people that there's not enough space in this issue to mention them all. I would like to thank all of you now.

I hope that everyone has a safe, productive summer!

PETE DAVIS  
Superintendent



**Storm damage at Table Rock State**





## Park from "The Blizzard of '93"







### DISTRICT IV

District IV parks are busy preparing for the summer season. Park staffs are finishing work projects, cutting grass, and seeing that everything is in order to open all facilities for the summer. Another aspect of this preparation is our special programs. Many of the District IV parks have had spring programs or they are in the process of planning programs for our summer visitors. You will read about some of these in the following park reports. We all know how much work goes into preparing for a busy summer season. We also know that situations always arise that need the cooperation and support of the total park staff. I want to thank the District IV employees for the supportive spirit that I see at every park. With this spirit and teamwork, I know we will have another successful season.

LEW CATO

District IV Superintendent

#### ANDREW JACKSON

This park has taken on a new superintendent but not someone new to the park system. Marshall Brucke has moved from Landsford Canal after 17 years at that park. We would like to welcome him and his wife, Betty, and look forward to having his enthusiasm and new ideas. We would also like to congratulate Kim Ehrman on her recent marriage to Gordon Threatt. The program emphasis at this park is growing and so are the number of programs. The fifth annual Carolina Legends Festival on May 15 was one such successful program.

#### BAKER CREEK

If you visit Baker Creek anytime soon you will notice a new and improved look. The bathhouse parking lot has been redesigned and rebuilt and the staff is hard at work landscaping and putting on the finishing touches to this area. Through a grant from the Soil Conservation Service, 25 campsites have been leveled, regraded and lined with crossties. A special thanks to the park staff for their assistance with this project. I would also like to congratulate Gerald Tuft on his recent marriage.

#### CALHOUN FALLS

This park is celebrating its one-year anniversary with flying colors. Time flies when you are hard at work and this hard work has paid off with high attendance in camping and general park use. Attendance is so good that plans are in the making to add more campsites to the forty-one already in use. More good news! The Corps of Engineers just completed a thorough environmental assessment of the park and it met all the standards. We look forward to bigger and better things from this park in the future.

#### CHESTER

Wayne Timms and his crew have been hard at work this spring keeping the park up to par. The entrance has been newly landscaped and a concurrent project has been added to next year's list to revamp the entrance sign. The new sign will be a replica of the original CCC one which welcomed visitors many years ago. The park has recently played host to several horse shows and the employees anticipate a busy summer.



## **DREHER ISLAND**

Construction of five cabins on the shore of Lake Murray has become a reality at Dreher Island State Park. The cabins, which are slated to be completed in the fall, will add a much-needed facility to this fishing spot. Fishing has picked up along with park use. The park staff, under the direction of Superintendent Rick Smith, is progressing on work projects, planting trees, and upgrading the appearance of the park. Plans are underway for the renovation of the old bathhouse into a new office.

## **HAMILTON BRANCH**

Fishermen and outdoor enthusiasts are finding Hamilton Branch a popular park to help them "get away from it all." Fishing on Lake Thurmond has been good and the park staff has been busy cutting grass and checking in campers. Park projects are being completed and next year's goals and objectives are being set.

## **HICKORY KNOB**

Hickory Knob is keeping up the pace with the renovation of two cabin units. The interiors of these cabins have been completely remodeled with new carpet and wallpaper. The kitchens have been remodeled with new cabinets. New furniture will be added to these two units along with the other cabins in the middle of June.

As is usual for the spring, the golf course becomes a focal point, and this year it looks better than ever. Golfers should enjoy the newly-installed drinking water stations and the maintenance crew is hard at work on four rain shelters. Inside the lodge, progress is being made to upgrade the lobby and major emphasis is being put on the restaurant.

## **KINGS MOUNTAIN**

Spring is almost over and summer is at hand. Once again the Living History Farm is buzzing with school tours, senior citizens, scouts, and even a men's choir from Wales! Once again school tours are booked to capacity. Weddings are popular on the farm, with several already booked for this summer.

Winter months were filled with work projects delayed by the frequent rains. March saw the park with a new precipitation—snow, which fortunately did little damage. The staff at Kings Mountain is looking forward to the busy summer months. The park has many interesting weekend programs scheduled, such as scherenschnitte (paper-cutting art,) blacksmithing and wood carving, just to name a few. Next winter the park plans to offer science programs to the elementary schools in York and Clover. It's another busy year and there's more to come, with everyone looking forward to the grand finale...Pioneer Days!

## **LAKE GREENWOOD**

Compliments, compliments, compliments—that best describes the public's response to the newly-paved roads and campsites at Lake Greenwood. All of the road work has been completed with the exception of the parking lot by the boat basin. Boaters are pleased to see the addition of two new courtesy docks near the picnic area and the tackle shop. As if these additions are not enough, plans are being made to add five tent sites to accommodate those who want to "rough" it.

## **LAKE RUSSELL**

This park has provided a fishing spot for many a person this spring, and the summer looks to be a busy one. The Jim Rampey Recreation area remains neat, clean and provides a peaceful spot for lake enthusiasts.



## DISTRICT NEWS ( Continued)

### LAKE WATEREE

Although Lake Wateree is a popular spot for anglers, attendance and revenue are down. This cannot be blamed on the park but on limited access leading visitors down a small winding dirt road to the park gate. This detour is due to the fact that the two bridges that once provided park access have been out for an extended period of time. Looking on the positive side, the extra time has allowed the park staff the opportunity to complete most of their work projects.

### LANDSFORD CANAL

A new superintendent? Yes, it's true. We would like to welcome Joe Anderson and his wife, Leslie. Joe brings with him interpretive experience from Hunting Island State Park. This first-ever transfer from interpreter to superintendent should be a plus for the park. Joe has completed two very successful canoe trips down the Catawba River. Be on the lookout because Joe has his share of ideas to allow visitors a quality visit to Landsford. Plans are also in the making to complete the interpretive displays in the lockkeeper's house.

### SESQUICENTENNIAL

School programs always seem to be a plus and this spring has been no exception. School groups have been on a waiting list to sample some of the park's natural and cultural history. The training center has been upgraded with sheetrock walls and brightened with a coat of white paint. More plans are on the way for future renovations. Like many parks, landscaping has begun on the park entrance and already the overall appearance of the park has been improved. The park staff has worked hard at this and other park projects.



*Old Dorchester Superintendent Charles Cumbee and Ranger Danny DeWees working on retaining wall below fort.*



*Colleton Superintendent Greg Hanna and Supplemental Ranger Ted Hall removing old siding from ranger residence and insulating building prior to installing vinyl siding.*





*State park employees toured the facilities at Calhoun Falls State Park during the annual conference held earlier this year at Hickory Knob State Resort Park. From left, Myrtle Beach Superintendent Bobby Turner, Lake Warren Superintendent James Christie, Calhoun Falls Canteen Operator Betty White and Rose Hill Superintendent Chris Hightower.*



*The shop at Calhoun Falls State Park was another facility visited by state park employees during the annual superintendents' conference at nearby Hickory Knob.*



# PROGRAMS AND PARK PROMOTIONS

## GROWTH OF PROGRAMS SERVICES

The number of interpretive and recreation programs conducted in the various parks continues to grow. Perhaps the greatest evidence to that is that we have already outgrown the expanded Programs and Special Events booklet that was first used a year ago. It has become necessary to expand from 16 to 24 pages for the current edition.

The increased number of programs and the accompanying cost of conducting the activities has caused us to take measures to more systematically budget for program-related expenses. Interpreters and other employees have been instructed to plan and develop their schedule of programs for about 15 months in advance to enable us to more accurately budget funds for these activities.

This procedure necessitated having the interpreters and quite a few superintendents and rangers attend meetings with their respective interpretive coordinator to complete the schedule of prepared programs and to discuss details during these meetings. The end result will be much better organization of the programs and workshops on the various parks and a much better opportunity to look at the overall direction in which interpretive programs are going.

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Rose Hill Plantation State Park hosted a confederate encampment featuring the 7th South Carolina Volunteers, Co. D., of the Palmetto Battalion. More than 1100 people enjoyed the weekend's festivities which included a period fashion show, a battle between Confederate and Union cavalry units, and artillery demonstrations.

The 1993 edition of the Blue Ridge Trout Seminar took place at Oconee State Park in April. Co-sponsored by the Division of State Parks and the South Carolina Council of Trout Unlimited, the seminar attracted about ninety trout fishing enthusiasts from throughout the state.

The February photography workshop, sponsored jointly by Brookgreen Gardens and PRT, featured nationally-known photographer and author Larry West.

The 1993 Carolina Legends Festival featured a wide variety of bluegrass, folk and gospel music. This festival has been co-sponsored with the Lancaster County Council of the Arts since its inception in 1988.

Over a hundred people participated in the "renewal" of the mid-winter Outdoor Skills Workshop at Hickory Knob State Resort Park in February. More than a dozen instructors were recruited to teach a like number of outdoor education sessions.

Of all the activities that are listed or highlighted here, all share one thing in common; they were conducted through sponsorship with another group(s) or through liberal use of resource people other than PRT employees. The expansion we have enjoyed in recent years in program sources has been made possible by utilizing outside volunteers and professionals from other agencies.

## PARK PROMOTION

Promotion and advertising programs have shown very positive results in recent months.

Limited paid advertising combined with "in-house" promotions helped to book the villas at Devils Fork State Park almost solid for the summer and on weekends through November. Superintendent Pete Davis estimates that over \$10,000 in new business was generated by a mid-week winter rental promotion.

The advertising program for Hickory Knob State Resort Park was able to develop greater consistency with the completion of golf course renovations and the restoration of the greens. After a somewhat sluggish start, green fees and cart rentals are showing increases in excess of 8 percent over 1992.

A mid-winter golf package was developed to increase off-season lodging and golf course use. Through the end of May, more than 1300 park visitors have taken advantage of the package.

A concerted effort has been made to attract park visitors from Atlanta and other cities in Georgia as well as eastern Tennessee and western North Carolina. The main medium for this has been the newspaper. Radio spots have been combined with these newspaper ads to attract upstate residents back to Hickory Knob.



Cheraw State Park's new golf course has been heavily advertised in the Columbia area, the Pee Dee region, and in Charlotte, N.C.

Newspaper advertising has been extremely effective for Cheraw and, through the use of coupons, we have been able to determine from which areas the best response has come.

Superintendent Adair reports that the extensive use of local radio stations has also been instrumental in making people aware of this new park facility.

The best indication of the success of the advertising and promotion program for Cheraw State Park is to note that it has achieved 92 percent of its projected revenue with six of the year's biggest weeks left to report.

The Table Rock Lodge Restaurant is nearing the end of a record-setting year. This is particularly significant considering that it was closed for two weeks for kitchen renovations and experienced a decrease in park use resulting from the extensive storm damage.

The 18 public service television announcements continue to get good play in many markets.

Travel shows have been very effective in promoting the parks. The table-top displays purchased for each district have been used extensively and look good.

## GRAPHICS

It is difficult to imagine what we did before we began doing desktop publishing within the Parks Division. The sheer volume of posters, fliers, ads, menus, etc., is mind boggling. While the volume of requests prevents us from being able to make each piece an award winner, our graphics operation has improved steadily in the past two years. This improvement has been accomplished through A-II employees working part time. It is only fitting to pay tribute to them for their efforts. Currently, we have Lisa Bynum, who recently received her Master of Mass Communications. Tammy Highsmith is a recent addition to our staff. She replaces Andy Bosman, who recently accepted a "real" job with the University of South Carolina. Tammy is currently earning her Master of Arts degree in Journalism at the University of South Carolina.

## TAKEN BY STORM

By now, I suppose every employee is aware of the damage caused by the February storm. Men and women from throughout the park system were assigned temporary duty to help clean up and repair the damage at Table Rock and Paris Mountain state parks. It was extremely rewarding to see the manner in which these employees accepted their assignments, and the attitudes displayed in working under extremely adverse conditions.

After the carpentry repairs were made and most of the heavy-equipment work was completed, a number of interpreters went to Table Rock to assist Scott Stegenga in clearing limbs and debris off the trail and cleaning up around the Nature Center. This necessitated adjustments in many people's schedules. For the willingness to make these adjustments and to lend a helping hand, we applaud your efforts and thank you.

## NEW FACES

Joe Anderson, former Interpreter at Hampton Plantation and Hunting Island state parks, has been promoted to superintendent of Landsford Canal State Park. Congratulations to Joe and thanks for a job well done as interpreter.

Mike Walker has been selected to replace Joe at Hunting Island. Mike is a former resident of the Beaufort area and summer naturalist at the park, so it is truly a "homecoming" for him.

Timothy Braden has taken the naturalist job vacated by Mike Walker at Myrtle Beach State Park. He is a graduate of the University of Delaware.

DAN TURPIN  
Chief, Programs & Promotion



# PERSONNEL CHANGES



## NEW EMPLOYEES

### CALHOUN FALLS

Mary Bullock, Administrative Specialist B

### CHERAW

Tony R. Roscoe, Park Technician  
Kenneth B. Taylor, Groundskeeper I  
Carl K. Welch, Canteen Operator I

### HICKORY KNOB

Clarissa R. Lanier, Accounting Technician I  
Thomas Rodgers, Groundskeeper I

### HUNTINGTON BEACH

Katherine M. Best, Park Ranger I

### LAKE WARREN

Mark Cook, Park Ranger I

### LEE

George Hargrove, Ranger II  
Lawton E. Stephens, Park Technician

### MYRTLE BEACH

Paul J. Aliff, Park Technician  
Timothy Braden, Park Interpreter II  
Alva Weaver, Park Ranger I

### OCONEE

Doyle E. McCall, Jr., Park Technician

### OLD SANTEE CANAL

Jeffrey Keen, Building Supervisor  
Tommy Spruill, Jr., Park Technician  
Tonda Weatherford, Clerical Specialist B

### TABLE ROCK

Russell Cassell, Park Technician

## PROMOTIONS & TRANSFERS

Joseph J. Anderson, Superintendent I,  
Landsford Canal,  
from Interpreter II, Hunting Island

Garris Brazell, Building Supervisor, Myrtle  
Beach,  
from Park Technician, Myrtle Beach

Marshall Brucke, Superintendent II, Andrew  
Jackson  
from Superintendent I, Landsford Canal

Mark D. Davis, Ranger III, Santee  
from Ranger II, Hickory Knob

Matt McCalla, Ranger II, Hickory Knob  
from Administrative Specialist B, Calhoun  
Falls

James Taylor, Superintendent III, Paris  
Mountain  
from Superintendent II, Andrew Jackson

Michael Walker, Interpreter II, Hunting Island  
from Interpreter I, Myrtle Beach

Leon L. Yarborough, Ranger II, Myrtle Beach  
from Ranger I, Myrtle Beach

## RESIGNATIONS

### CHARLES TOWNE LANDING

Doris Smalls

### CHERAW

Dudley P. Bennett  
Earl Boatwright

### HICKORY KNOB

Anthony R. Brown

### HUNTINGTON BEACH

James J. Strickland

### LAKE WARREN

Robert S. Wiggins

### LEE

Richard L. Caddell, Jr.

### LITTLE PEE DEE

Brian Hart

### MYRTLE BEACH

George Eggleston

### OLD SANTEE CANAL

Earl F. Outlaw

### POINSETT

Elizabeth C. Alfieri

### SANTEE

Stephen Ashley

### SESQUICENTENNIAL

Charles Williams

### TABLE ROCK

Michael Broom  
Margaret Sloan

### CENTRAL OFFICE

Lisa Newman  
Gene Speer



## THROUGH THE YEARS



When I joined the state park "family" some twenty-two years ago, one of my first assignments from State Parks Director Ray Sisk was to revive a newsletter for state park employees. Prior to that time, a newsletter had been circulated under the name "Sparks From The Parks."

Lee State Park Superintendent Van Pressley won a contest to name the newsletter "Park Lites," and that's the name it's been circulated under since the early seventies.

Since that time, its content and appearance have changed substantially. That's because our state park system has also changed substantially.

It might be appropriate to consider the role of "Park Lites" during this period of time. It has been a historical document, putting in "black and white" certain facts and figures concerning our system's progress and growth. Many times staff members have referred to back issues to determine when a park was opened to the public, when a park building was completed, when a fee was put into effect or revised, or when an employee worked at a particular park.

"Park Lites" has also provided a means for paying tribute to employees who have performed yeoman service, both individually and as a group. An example of the latter is outlined in this issue concerning the clean-up at Table Rock, Paris Mountain and other parks following the "Blizzard of '93."

Changes in "Park Lites" are continuing as a result of printing standards established for state agencies earlier this year. The impetus behind these guidelines is to encourage agencies to use the most reasonable and cost-effective printing methods available. "Park Lites" is classified as an "internal" newsletter, referring to newsletters containing information for use by the agency's own staff. Internal newsletters are also commonly referred to as "house organs." According to these standards, internal newsletters shall be printed according to the following standards: 1. using no more than one color of ink; 2. using uncoated offset paper equivalent to paper on state contract or newsprint; 3. duplex printing (printing on both sides of a sheet), if applicable, and 4. embossing, foil stamping, and/or die cuts may not be used.

I like to think that one of the most important functions of "Park Lites" has been to be a builder of morale among the members of our state park family. Looking back over the past twenty-two years, I can think of so many instances where state park employees have performed outstanding service. In that regard, I hope that at least some of these fine folks have been mentioned within the pages of past issues.

Like riding on a crowded elevator, I have seen lots of folks come and go since 1971. However, many of them are still working in the Columbia Office, at the Service & Supply Center and at state parks throughout South Carolina. It's truly been my privilege to know each of you, and I hope that in some small way, my efforts have made your job easier.

Have a great summer!

*Dana L. Sawyer*

DANA L. SAWYER  
Editor





**PARK LITES**  
**SOUTH CAROLINA STATE PARKS**  
**NEWSLETTER**

1205 Pendleton Street  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201



*Santee Superintendent Phil Gaines (on ladder) adjusts lighting on newly-installed exhibit panels in the Visitors' Center while Resource Management Biologist Irvin Pitts and Santee Interpreter David Green assist.*